Hanover Pond

Hanover Pond was created when a dam was built in 1855 to power the Meriden Cutlery Company. In the winter, pond ice was harvested to support local stores and homes. Several parks were developed around the pond over time.

Hanover Park (once a major regional attraction) was home to a large amusement park, with theater productions, rides, games, and semi-pro baseball.

The bath house for Dossin Beach, built in 1932, is now the Quinnipiac River Watershed Association (QRWA) headquarters building. Boating is returning to this whole area.

The Quinnipiac River is stocked every year with trout. If you are quiet and pay attention, you will see much wildlife (and possibly Bald Eagles) less than one mile from downtown Meriden.

The Meriden Linear Trails network follows an historic rail bed. The Meriden, Waterbury & Connecticut River Railroad was built in 1885 and was used until 1917. The Gorge Trail (Phase I) has many historic sites. Carpenters Dam was home to Hough's Mill. Grist was made here and shipped to the West Indies. Oregon Dam was the home of a Button Factory. Red Bridge was built prior to 1890 as a road passage and continues to be a landmark today.

Phase II follows Sodom Brook. This quadrant of land, originally Coe Farm, was home to the Meriden Ice Company and a civil war training facility called Camp Tyler.



Photo by Bob Pagini

Trail Description:

Easy Walk

The Meriden Linear Trails offer beautiful views of the Quinnipiac River, Hanover Pond and Sodom Brook. Bring comfortable walking shoes, bicycles, roller blades, strollers, wheelchairs, etc.

Total trail distance is approx. 1.0 mile

Directions and Parking:

From I-691: take exit 15 north or south and head south on Chamberlain Highway (Route 71). Turn right where Route 71 connects with West Main St and take the second left onto Centennial Ave. Continue straight and the entrance to Dossin Beach will be on the left. Parking is available at Dossin Beach on the west side of Hanover Pond (with access from Oregon Rd.) and at the end of the trail with access from Coe Ave.

Permitted/Prohibited Activities:

Hiking, biking and skating are permitted. No motorized vehicles. Wheelchair accessible.Leashed pets are welcome, please clean up any waste.



Photo by Peter Marteka

Total Trails Length: Approx. 1.0 mile





For more information about this location, contact:

Town of Meriden Recreation Program Supervisor (203) 630-4259



